

TE KOTAHITANGA

Te Kareti o Wiremu Koroneho, or William Colenso College (WCC) as it's affectionately known, is part of the teacher professional development programme Te Kotahitanga. The goal of this programme is to raise the achievement of Maori students. This is an extremely important goal for all of us at William Colenso College because 50% of our students identify as Maori. In earlier phases (other participating schools) , Te Kotahitanga has proved to be successful not only raising the achievement of Maori students, but all students, so it is an exciting programme to be part of.

William Colenso College is a phase five school, which means we began our journey in 2010 and we will work together with Waikato University until the end of 2014. All our staff are involved with Te Kotahitanga. The first part of the process is for staff to read a paper on "Cultural Speaks" and then to participate in a hui whakarewa which runs for two full days. Within the teaching staff there has been a facilitation team formed which include: Catherine Kerr, Shane Hiha, Leah Kersey and Anne White. These staff members work alongside other colleagues on a term by term cycle of observations, feedback, co-construction and shadow coaching. They will support their colleagues in implementing the Effective Teaching Profile in the classroom and gathering data to track the achievement of their Maori students.